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(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 400, SATH CONNINESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 6, 1977

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO Q# 953

Admiral Stansfield Turner Director of Central Intelligence Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence plans to investigate the ability of the Intelligence Community to detect, observe, and counter the activities of international terrorist groups. The Committee is interested especially in the quality of such intelligence, in the usefulness of the intelligence product to policymakers and law enforcement agencies, and in any organizational and procedural government efforts to counter terrorist activities. The Committee would use its findings to determine what, if any, legislative action ought to be taken that would improve efforts in any of the above areas and that would also prevent unwarranted intrusion into the privacy of United States persons.

The Committee will contact your offices through appropriate channels for information and briefings. would be grateful for your cooperation in this matter.

Aloha,

Chairman

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## DRAFT DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Recently Senator Inouye made a report to the Senate on his year-and-a-half as the Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. I thought you would like to read the highlights of that report:

"In recent years the intelligence community, particularly the CIA and the FBI, have been the targets of suspicion and abuse. There is no question that a number of abuses of power, mistakes in judgment and failures by the intelligence agencies, have harmed the United States. We, of course, hope that these abuses are behind us and will not occur again. These events did not happen in a vacuum. In almost every instance, the abuses that have been revealed were a result of direction from above, including Presidents and Secretaries of State. Further, in almost every instance, some members of both Houses of Congress assigned the duty of oversight were knowledgeable about these activities.

"Every organization, whether the Congress, the White House, the CIA, corporations, universities or churches, are made up of men and women with their full share of excellences and failures. With the exception of a very small number who broke the law or failed in their trust, we owe a great debt to our intelligence community. It is made up of men and women of unusual dedication and ability who serve our country under the most difficult of circumstances. We can be proud that they have come through the trials of the past several years with a clearer sense of purpose and with a strengthened belief in the value of a life of service to our nation.

\*The intelligence community has been in a turmoil over the past few years. It has been the subject of a number of Congressional inquiries, internal investigations and intense criticism from the press and the public. With the support of the President and under the firm direction of Stansfield Turner. the intelligence community is in the process of creating a new organizational structure which should lead to more efficient coordination of its world-wide activities and a better overall intelligence product. It is my view that the intelligence agencies of the United States are now functioning under strict guidelines set forth by the President and the National Security Council, which lay out clear missions, limitations and accountability, as well as rigorous oversight by both the House and the Senate. While many improvements and reforms are called for, it is my evaluation that the present quality of the work of the United States intelligence community is good, and shows every Approved For Release 2004/Q5/05: CIA-RDP80M00165A000700040035-6 sign of becoming better.